

ENTHUSIASTIC CROWD GATHERS IN STATION TO GREET PERSHING

RECEPTION COMMITTEE INCLUDED ALL PROMINENT BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONAL MEN OF CITY—HUNDREDS GATHER ALONG ROUTE OF GENERAL'S PARTY.

Despite the cloudy and somewhat rainy weather a large crowd assembled at the railroad station this afternoon to see the arrival of General John J. Pershing, guest of the Manufacturers' Association and the American Legion tonight.

Reception committees including Mayor Wilson, prominent manufacturers, business men and bankers, as well as heads of the leading organizations in the city were on hand to bid the commander of the A. E. F. "welcome."

The reception at the station was of an informal nature and at its conclusion the general and his aides were conducted to waiting automobiles to begin their tour of inspection of several of the war shops of the city, including the Remington Arms-Union Metallic, Lake Torpedo Boat, Locomobile and Buell companies.

At five o'clock General Pershing is scheduled to appear at the armory where the school children of the city will be gathered and at which reception Justice George W. Wheeler will deliver an address of welcome.

General Pershing is the guest of honor at tonight's Manufacturers' association banquet at which Hon. James M. Beck and Hon. Schuyler Merritt will be the speakers.

Leaving the banquet General Pershing will be the guest of the executive men at the Casino Hotel. Here the two principal speakers of the evening will be former Ambassador to Germany General and former Attorney General Wickersham.

After a brief stay at the Casino the general proceeds to the Elks' Home

in State street, where preparations have been under way all day long to insure the general of a real "Elk Time."

Pershing leaves the city tomorrow morning, stopping at The Stratford hotel.

Advance reports of the ticket sale for tonight's American Legion reception indicate that a very large crowd will be on hand to hear General Pershing, Ambassador Gerard and former Attorney General Wickersham. Former Ambassador Gerard stated in New York yesterday that no city in the country contributed more to the Allied victory than did Bridgeport, and that it was with the greatest pleasure that he welcomed an opportunity of speaking here, especially as it is helping such a worthy cause as the building fund of the American Legion.

The doors open for the reception at 7:15 and a concert by the Wheeler & Wilson band is set for 7:45. Several musical numbers will be interspersed between the speaking.

Little "Bluff" And Germany Had Ended Transportation

Washington, March 16—A little "bluff" by the Germans in 1918 at the crucial point of the war, would have paralyzed transportation of soldiers and war materiel, according to the committee. Admiral Sims told the Senate naval subcommittee.

Information from authentic sources indicating that the Germans were building two heavily armored modern battle cruisers for a desperate last hope said Admiral Sims, who conveyed was transmitted to the navy department, Admiral Sims said, and immediately he was besieged with cablegrams from Washington outlining various plans of action, all of which, he testified, were impracticable. Though such a contingency had been under discussion for nearly a year and there had been ample time to prepare.

"If the enemy had only known," said Admiral Sims, "all he need have done was to make a series of bluffs involving little risk to himself and we would have done the rest. Shipping would have been paralyzed."

Admiral Sims discussed at length four plans proposed by the department for defeating Germany on the sea. They were: A—protecting lanes through the English Channel; the blocking of German ports by sinking ships in the entrance; mine barriers of nets and mines of types then in use; mine barriers of mines of a new type. All except the last were impracticable, he declared and he believed that the sinking of German ports by nets and mines would have been successful by the insistence of the department that they be tried.

The department wished to land a "solar plexus blow" against the submarine campaign, the admiral said, and suggested many schemes which long before had been rejected by the allies. Such a plan was that of sinking old battleships and cruisers in the entrances to all German submarine harbors, Admiral Sims asserted, and only after he had pointed out that the scheme would require the sinking of forty battleships and 43 cruisers and six months of preparation did the department agree to abandon the plan. It took seven months of effort to bring the Washington officials to the final conclusion, he said.

On May 11, 1917, the navy department first suggested the idea of a barrage of mines across the North Sea to trap the German sea forces, Admiral Sims said, and at that time he opposed the plan because the allies could not afford to divert the large numbers of men and ships and huge amounts of material necessary to make the project a success, he declared, and also because the old type mines then in use were not practicable for such a purpose.

Later when the submarine campaign was well in hand and a new type of antenna mine developed in this country, he approved the idea, he said, and helped to expedite the laying of the barrage. The result, the North Sea mine barrage, was a splendid achievement, the admiral said, reflecting great credit on the navy and the officers and men who were responsible for the success of the project.

Admiral Sims said he particularly wished to refute an assertion "widely circulated" that the department had proposed and from the first favored the mine barrage project and that he was "about the only officer in the navy who had ever opposed it."

The Navy Department at the time the United States entered the war, Admiral Sims said, was not "very much better informed than the general public of actual conditions in the belligerent countries, and had but little trustworthy information regarding such matters as submarine losses, shipping losses, anti-submarine measures or other matters concerning which complete knowledge was essential to the development of effective plans for combating the submarine menace."

DUTCH ADD TO FRONTIER GUARD

The Hague, March 16—The Dutch government has slightly strengthened the guard at the German frontier. A particularly close scrutiny is being made of automobiles. Passengers arriving on the frontier at Oldenzaal and Zeevaar report traffic within Germany considerably interrupted. Dutch laborers who were reported in Germany near the front have been sent home on account of the general strike.

WIFE TELLS OF SPOUSES CRUELTY

Admits She Was Thrown From Car But Was Not Drunk.

Admitting that she was thrown from an automobile in which she and several men were passengers, Julia Taylor of Milford denied before State Referee Roraback this morning that she was intoxicated, although a newspaper report of the accident stated that she was. Mrs. Taylor is contesting the divorce proceedings brought against her by William P. Taylor of this city.

She made startling charges of cruelty against her husband and claimed she was compelled to leave him in 1916. The wife said Taylor threw a kettle of hot water at her, pulled her around the floor by the hair and often beat her. She also said Taylor compelled her to undergo five illegal operations.

Mrs. Taylor, a good looking young woman, was asked by the husband's counsel, in regard to her acquaintance with various men. She would not admit that any of the men were more than "personal acquaintances." She was asked about Walter Ford, but said he visited her only once in Milford. Mrs. Taylor denied taking an automobile ride with a man known as "Blondy." She said this man's last name was Beard, but she could not remember his first name.

Referee Roraback reserved decision in the case.

PEACE REIGNS IN PORTUGAL

Lisbon, March 16—(By A. P.)—Peace reigns in this city, nor has the quiet that prevails been disturbed for a long time. Reports relative to a serious state of affairs here which have been current in the outside world for the last few months had their origin in rumors which could not be contradicted because of the strike of postal and telegraph service employees which cut off communication with other countries.

Strikes are common throughout Portugal, and affect large numbers of working men, including government employees, electricians, metal workers and men employed in building trades but the movement has hitherto been confined to silent protest against the enormous rise in the cost of living. Workers have found it impossible to exist on the wages they have been receiving.

Inquiries in quarters thoroughly informed as to conditions and representing diverse viewpoints have brought a general response that the working people of Portugal are not infected with Bolshevik tendencies, that they do not desire a revolution and claim they so much as will permit them to live reasonably well.

Financial conditions, however, militate against any radical betterment in the situation at present. The constant decline in exchange rates results in prices of commodities mounting higher every day. Exports of goods have increased but these taxes, made necessary by augmented national expenditures, have not caused any violent outbreaks.

BOUVIER GETS COMPENSATION FOR INJURY

Leo Bouvier of Stratford, who was injured in 1915, 1918, while employed by the Lake Torpedo Boat Co., was awarded additional compensation of \$174.30 by Compensation Commissioner E. T. Buckingham after a hearing. The commissioner decided that Bouvier had sustained a ten per cent. permanent loss of the use of his left arm.

Bouvier, who is a minor, was represented by his mother, Mrs. Christine Bouvier, at the hearing. The Lake Company has been paying Bouvier at the rate of \$8.33 a week while he was unable to work.

NEW GOVERNMENT AT BERLIN HOLDS CABINET COUNCIL

London, March 16—The new government at Berlin held a cabinet council last night which was attended by General Ludendorff, former first quartermaster general of the German army, according to a dispatch to the Exchange Telegraph from the German capital, by way of Amsterdam.

A new government was formed at Munich, Bavaria, yesterday composed of Democrats and the Centre party according to a Copenhagen dispatch to the Central News. The new government will meet today, the dispatch says.

Soviet Republic Now Proclaimed At Hoj Barana

Amsterdam, March 16—A dispatch to the Handelsblad from Berlin today says that a soviet republic has been proclaimed at Hoj Barana. (Hof is northeastern Bavaria, 30 miles northeast of Bayreuth. It has a population of about 33,000.)

The politicians are investigating the things that have been done in the past, while the people are investigating the things the politicians are going to do in the future.

WILL BE A DETERMINED CONTEST FOR CONTROL

Washington Expects Ebert Government To Be Restored

Washington, March 16—Restoration of the authority of the Ebert government with sporadic outbreaks throughout Germany are expected by military officials here, who interpret dispatches from Colonel Edward Davis, military attaché at Berlin as indicating that the coup d'état is not so serious as had at first been supposed.

The calling of a general strike by the Ebert cabinet is regarded here as certain to encourage the most radical elements of the German nation to make another attempt at revolution and overthrow of "capitalistic" society. But while the recurrence of violence in the large cities, similar to the spartan revolts last year, is looked for, the soviet sympathizers in Germany are said to constitute so small a minority that serious trouble need not be expected.

\$50,000 LOSS IN "FLU" DEATHS DANBURY FIRE TOTALLED 100

Believe Blaze to Have Entire Number Dying During Past Month Was 302.

Danbury, March 16—Loss estimated at between \$50,000 and \$60,000 was caused by the burning of a large car barn of the Danbury & Bethel Street Railway Company, at the headquarters of the road on South street, about 4 o'clock this morning.

Nineteen cars, including practically the entire equipment of summer cars owned by the road were destroyed and the residence of Michael F. Lynch, near by, was damaged to the extent of \$5,000. The fire is believed to have been of incendiary origin.

HOLCOMB'S IDEA WOULD NOT HOLD

Hartford, Conn., March 16—To obtain an opinion on the position of Governor Marcus H. Holcomb in the matter of a special session of the general assembly, which in a statement issued last night the governor definitely declined to call, the Woman's Suffrage Association of Connecticut today submitted that statement to Francis W. Cole, an attorney of this city.

Mr. Cole replies to the association in part as follows:

"Our state constitution may be legally amended or changed either by amending it in the manner prescribed therein, or by amending the United States constitution in the manner prescribed in the constitution and thus by paramount law change the Connecticut constitution insofar as it conflicts with the paramount law.

Legally, constitutionally and so far as the governor's oath of office is concerned, I do not think there is any reason for choice between the two methods of amendment. The governor's oath requires him to support the constitution of the United States as well as the constitution of the state of Connecticut and as I see it does not morally or legally obligate him to oppose amendment to the United States constitution. He is at liberty to permit the change in our state constitution by either method mentioned above.

"The governor has referred to the amendment to our state constitution in 1876 erasing the word 'white' from the first line of Article VIII of the constitution. This amendment was superfluous. The 15th Amendment to the United States constitution had already obliterated in legal effect the 'white' from this article of the Connecticut constitution.

"It is reasonable to suppose that the 15th Amendment to the United States constitution, which constitutional amendment was legally and effectively changed thereby.

"The present situation as to the woman suffrage amendment will present an almost exact parallel. If raised since from these provisions of the 'white' from those provisions of the Connecticut constitution declaring the qualifications of voters."

ARE RECOVERING VAST TREASURE

One Vessel Obtained 1,000,000 Pounds in Gold From Laurentic.

London, March 16—Sunken treasure worth 50,000,000 pounds has been raised since the war began around the British Isles.

The Restorer and the Reliant, two salvaging vessels that were bought by a British concern from the American navy, have a new device, an oxy-acetylene flame which is worked under water for cutting holes in the sides of submerged vessels.

Each ship has 25 electric pumps capable of pumping 1,000,000 gallons of water an hour, and carries two divers, searchlights, line throwing guns, electric welding plants, rock drills and other accessories. Each diver is equipped with a telephone. The Restorer last year recovered 1,800,000 pounds in gold from the Laurentic off Lough Swilly and both vessels now are operating off New Haven, on the channel coast.

Seattle, Wash., March 16—Two masked men early today held up the internal revenue office here and escaped with \$25,000.

FORMER PRESIDENT OF GERMANY DECLARES ONLY BASIS FOR NEGOTIATIONS WILL BE UNCONDITIONAL SURRENDER—GENERAL STRIKE EFFECTIVE.

(By The Associated Press)

Germany's two governments—the new in Berlin and the old in Stuttgart—are still locked in a struggle for supremacy. While reports through Paris today reiterate that negotiations are in progress for a compromise the Ebert government in Stuttgart is equally positive that no compromise can be considered.

On the face of the announcements by the rival governments, today promised to witness the beginning of a determined contest for control.

Chancellor Kapp, backed by the bayonets of the troops that made it possible for him to oust the Ebert government, is sitting tight in the German capital but already feels the effects of the strong weapon the socialists have used to combat him—the general strike. Against this he declares that there could be no negotiations except on the basis of unconditional surrender by Dr. Kapp.

The national assembly, called together by the Ebert government, will meet at Stuttgart tomorrow to consider the situation. It is stated, by Hanover newspapers, he is reported to have made a public declaration that he is not connected with the Kapp revolution and on the contrary disapproves of it.

Berlin is in the grip of a general strike, called by Socialists and labor leaders as a counter strike to the assumption of power by the government headed by Dr. Wolfgang Kapp, who has issued a decree threatening all strike leaders and pickets with death if there is interference with vital public services. Extreme measures will be taken under the decree from four o'clock this afternoon and it is possible the crisis of the new revolution will follow quickly.

Details of the situation throughout Germany are somewhat obscure but there seems to be reason to believe the Ebert government is still holding control in the southern and western sections, while the Kapp regime is rather firmly entrenched in northeastern Prussia and in Silesia where many towns and cities are reported to have declared their adherence to the new government.

Lima, March 16—The Peruvian legation at LaPaz, the Bolivian capital, was attacked last night by a mob of a thousand men, according to official advices received this afternoon by the Peruvian foreign office. The Peruvian consulate and private residences of Peruvians also were attacked, the dispatches declare. The mob, the advices state, was headed by General Ismael Montes, former president of Bolivia.

The Peruvian minister and the consul with their families were at the theatre when the outbreak occurred. They were later escorted to their residences by the American minister and the British charge, the message adds.

The American charge d'affaires at Lima held a long conference here this afternoon with President Porras and officials of the Peruvian foreign office. President Porras will appear before congress this evening and make a full statement regarding the situation.

COMMISSIONERS RENDER REPORT

Commissioners hearing the claims against the estate of the late John Peeney rendered a report to Judge Paul L. Miller of the Probate Court today showing that a claim by Margaret T. Beck for \$6,400 was cut to \$4,800 and a claim by Catherine Peeney of \$750 was allowed. It is understood that an appeal will be taken to the superior court on the Beck claim.

The commissioners are Theodore E. Steiber, Malcolm MacFayden and Frank Francis.

After deliberating but a short time, a jury in the superior court this afternoon awarded Sarah J. Lyddy of this city damages of \$2,117.36 in her suit against Michael Conlin, administrator on the estate of Charles Conlin, late of Trumbull. Mrs. Lyddy asked for \$2,000 damages as the jury gave her the entire amount of her claim with interest.

It was alleged by Mrs. Lyddy that she loaned Charles Conlin \$2,000 in 1916. He died in 1918 without repaying her, although he had promised to do so, she said. She claimed she had loaned Conlin money on previous occasions and there had been no writing to show the transaction. Other relatives of Conlin, who contested the claim, said the deceased did not borrow money from Mrs. Lyddy as she alleged. The matter came to the superior court on an appeal from the probate court of this part of the claim.

WOMAN WINS ON APPEALED CLAIM

Working classes inflamed over killing of girl.

London, March 16—The working classes are much excited against the administration as consequence of the shooting of a young girl in the south Berlin railway station and the killing of four persons in the north Berlin industrial section by guards, according to a Berlin dispatch to the Evening News.

D'Annunzio's volunteers will not be punished on their return to the Italian Army. Their regiments, however, will cease to exist, and the men will be distributed among other units.

Diamond drilling in the former gold mining regions of Northern Ontario has recently developed sufficiently to be of good commercial value.

Many Killed As Troops Fire On German Crowds

SUB-COMMITTEE RESUMES WORK

Main Issue Is Hard Coal Workers Demands For Increase.

New York, March 16—The subcommittee of operators and miners appointed to negotiate a new wage agreement for the anthracite coal miners, resumed its conferences here today.

Whether the mine workers and the employers are going to reach an amicable settlement by April 1 when the present agreements expire, will depend largely upon the progress made by the committee during its sessions this week when the main issues involved will be taken up.

The demands of the miners having been discussed generally during last week's conferences, it is expected that the committee will now take up each clause and definitely dispose of it. The operators will also present several counter proposals, it is stated, which will be considered.

The main issues to be disposed of will be the hard coal workers' demands for a 40 per cent. increase, a five day, a six hour and a "closed shop."

The operators, it is understood, are prepared to resist these demands to the limit with the exception of the wage increase which they are reported as prepared to compromise by offering a raise of from 30 to 40 per cent.

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